

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. – 19. (Cancelled)

20. (Previously Presented) An optical element comprising:

- at least one at least partially transparent layer;
- a plurality of micro-optical structures arranged in said layer;

wherein the micro-optical structures are at least one of diffractive type micro-optical structures or refractive type micro-optical structures and have characteristic profile dimensions of between 0.5 and 200 micrometers;

wherein the micro-optical structures are arranged in at least two sections of said layer, each section comprising a pattern of micro-optical structures defining an optical function; and

wherein the patterns of micro-optical structures at least in adjacent sections are different from one another.

21. (Previously Presented) An optical element according to claim 20, wherein the micro-optical structures of the micro-optical element are designed according to the position, size and shape of the one or more electroluminescent elements, and

output light distribution of the one or more electroluminescent elements to be used in conjunction with the optical element.

22. (Previously Presented) An optical element according to claim 20, wherein the different sections comprise different micro-optical structures present in a single at least partially transparent layer.

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Previously Presented) An optical element according to claim 20, wherein the independent sections each have an individual optical function.

25. (Previously Presented) A method for manufacturing an optical element comprising the steps of:

- providing an at least one at least partially transparent layer;
- arranging micro-optical structures in said layer, wherein the micro-optical structures are at least one of diffractive type micro-optical structures or refractive type micro-optical structures and have characteristic profile dimensions of between 0.5 and 200 micrometers;

arranging the micro-optical structures in at least two sections of said layer, wherein each section comprises a pattern of micro-optical structures defining an optical function and wherein the patterns of micro-optical structures at least in adjacent sections are different from one another.

26. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 25, wherein the step of arranging the micro-optical structures in the at least one layer comprises embossing said micro-optical structures in each section of said layer.

27. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 25, further comprising manufacturing the different sections by manufacturing different micro-optical structures in a single at least partially transparent layer.

28. (Cancelled)

29. (Previously Presented) An optical element according to claim 20, further comprising a light emitting element arranged such, with respect to the at least one at least partially transparent layer, that light emitted by the light emitting element is incident on at least two sections comprising micro-optical structures that are different from another.

30. (Previously Presented) An optical element according to claim 20, wherein the micro-optical structures form a pattern that, as projected onto a plane of the micro-optical element, has line symmetry along two perpendicular lines.